

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 119 479

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FL 007 438

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TITLE The Story of Ching-Ming.
INSTITUTION San Francisco Unified School District, Calif. Chinese Bilingual Pilot Program.
SPONS AGENCY Office of Bilingual Education (DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C.
PUB DATE [71]
NOTE 20p.; For related documents, see FL 007 439-443 and FL 007 492

EDRS PRICE MF-\$0.83 HC-\$1.67 Plus Postage
DESCRIPTORS Biculturalism; *Bilingual Education; Bilingual Students; Cantonese; *Chinese; *Chinese Americans; Chinese Culture; Cultural Awareness; Cultural Background; *Cultural Education; Elementary Education; Instructional Materials; *Reading Materials

IDENTIFIERS *Elementary Secondary Education Act Title VII; ESEA Title VII

ABSTRACT

This is one of a series of elementary readers written in Cantonese and English and designed to familiarize children with the traditional major Chinese festivals celebrated in America. This booklet follows the activities of a Chinese-American family on "Ching-Ming Day." (CLK)

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The Story of Ching-Ming

Gordon Lew

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Chinese Bilingual
Pilot Program

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
EDUCATION & WELFARE
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The Chinese Bilingual Pilot Project, ESEA, Title VII, is pleased to furnish this informative booklet to those who prefer indepth knowledge of any group of Americans. This booklet continues our series in the recognition of traditional major Chinese festivals celebrated by the Chinese in America. May it add to your understanding and appreciation of one of America's diverse cultural heritages.

Mr. Wellington Chew,
Supervisor

Mr. Al Yuen,
On-Site Administrator

Mr. Victor Low,
Project Manager

Mrs. Sophie Lau,
Chairman of Chinese
Bilingual Advisory
Committee

(一)中美教育計劃繼續出版這小冊子，
使美國讀者對中國人有更深刻的
認識。

(二)這是繼「紅封的故事」後，出版的
小冊子，以介紹中國的傳統習俗。

(三)讓中美文化之溝通更進一步。

ON CHING - MING DAY,
EVERYBODY GOT UP EARLY.

清明日到了，
大家起得早。



EXCEPT LITTLE MING.

只有小明還貪睡，



SISTER WOKE HIM UP,
AND LITTLE MING WAS VERY UNHAPPY.

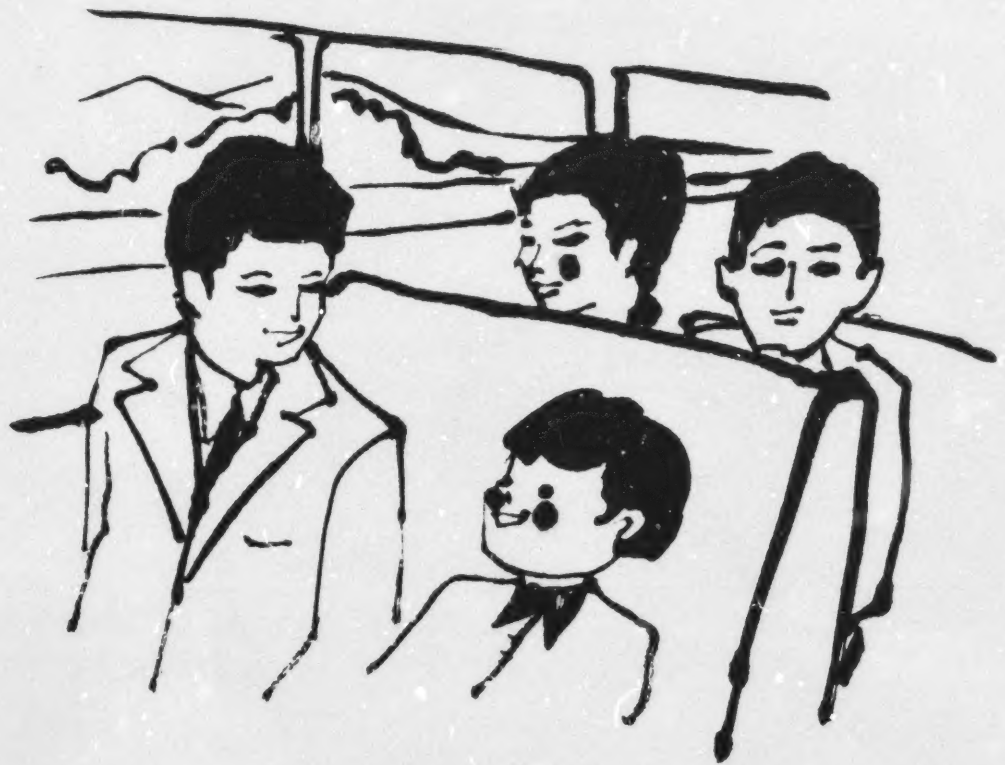
姊姊說：「快起來！」



THE WHOLE FAMILY TOOK A SPECIAL BUS
TO GO TO THE CEMETERY.

大家坐上了公共汽車。





FATHER SAID, "IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY."
LITTLE MING SAID, "IT'S TOO EARLY IN THE MORNING."

爸爸說：「今天天氣好。」
小明說：「太早，太早，我還可以睡一覺！」

WHEN THEY ARRIVED AT THE CEMETERY,
LITTLE MING WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THAT EVERYBODY
WAS BUSY.
THEY ALL SEEMED TO HAVE SOMETHING TO DO.

到了墓園，
大家連忙下車。



THEY FOUND GRANDPA'S GRAVE.
IT WAS QUITE UNTIDY.
LITTLE MING SAID, "I'LL PULL ALL THE WEEDS OFF."



小明看見
祖父的墓上
長滿了野草
他說：「我來拔草！」



WHILE LITTLE MING WAS WORKING ON THE WEEDS,
FATHER TOOK OUT A BRUSH AND PAINTED THE
LETTERS ON THE TOMBSTONE.

爸爸拿着筆，
慢慢地填上墓碑上的字。

SISTER WENT TO GET SOME WATER
TO FILL THE FLOWER POT.

MOTHER AND AUNTIE WERE UNPACKING THE BASKET.
LITTLE MING TOOK A PEEK INTO THE BASKET.

GUESS WHAT HE FOUND ?

HE SAW SOME PASTRIES, SOME HARD-BOILED EGGS,
SOME ORANGES, SOME INCENSE, SOME CANDLES,
SOME FIRECRACKERS, A BOTTLE OF WINE, SOME
GOLD AND SILVER PAPER, AND SOME FLOWERS.

LITTLE MING SAID, "WHAT A LOT OF STUFF !
BUT WHAT ARE THEY FOR ?"



姊姊拿水來插花，
小明拔了草，
要看媽媽帶來些甚麼東西？

FATHER SAID, "DO YOU REMEMBER GRANDPA?"
"YES, HE USED TO TELL ME STORIES AND BUY
ME CANDY," SAID LITTLE MING.

籃子裏有很多東西。

小明問爸爸這些東西有甚麼用途？

爸爸問小明，還記得祖父嗎？

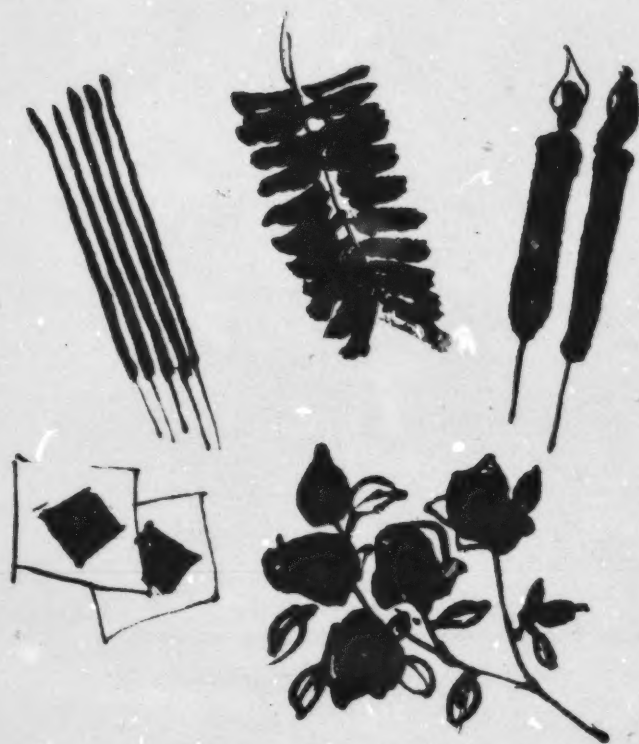
小明說：「記得，記得，祖父愛說故事，
常給我糖果吃。」



"WELL, WE ALL LOVED GRANDPA.
NOW THAT HE IS GONE. WE COME HERE ON
CHING-MING DAY TO PAY RESPECT TO HIM.

THE FIRECRACKERS WILL DRIVE AWAY THE BAD SPIRITS.
THE INCENSE WILL BRING IN FRAGRANCE.
THE CANDLES WILL GIVE LIGHT AND WARMTH.

THE GOLD AND SILVER PAPER ARE SYMBOLS OF WEALTH
THAT WE WANT TO SHARE WITH HIM.
THE FLOWERS ARE HERE TO MAKE THE PLACE MORE BEAUTIFUL.



爸爸說：「我們今天來向祖父表示敬意，
炮仗可以去邪，香燭有香氣，又可以表示光明
和溫暖，燒金銀紙表示我們願意分享世上
財富，生花使墓園更是美觀。」

THE FRUITS ARE SYMBOLS TO SHOW GRANDPA THAT HE WILL HAVE LOTS OF GRANDSONS AND GREAT GRANDSONS TO CARRY ON THE FAMILY NAME.

THE FOOD AND WINE ARE BROUGHT HERE TO SHOW GRANDPA THAT WE HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT AND THAT HE SHOULD NOT WORRY. ON THIS CHING-MING DAY, WE WILL SHARE THIS FOOD WITH HIS SPIRIT."

"THIS IS OUR WAY TO SHOW RESPECT TO GRANDPA," SAID MOTHER, "OTHER PEOPLE MAY HAVE DIFFERENT WAYS."



水果表示多子多孫，點心美酒是敬先人的食品」
媽媽說：「這是我們的做法，別人也有別人敬先人的辦法。」

AFTER FATHER HAD PAINTED THE LETTERS, AND SISTER
HAD FILLED THE FLOWER POT WITH FLOWERS, LITTLE MING
SAW AUNTIE LIGHT THE FIRECRACKERS.

MOTHER LIT THE CANDLES AND BURNT THE GOLD AND
SILVER PAPER.

爸爸填好字，姊姊插好花，
小明看姨姨燒炮仗。





SHE FILLED THE TINY WINE CUPS AND POURED SOME WINE ON THE GROUND. "THIS IS TO SHOW GRANDPA THAT WE ARE SHARING OUR DRINKS WITH HIM," SAID MOTHER.

媽媽把一些酒倒在地上，
她說這是與先人分享飲食的意思。

THE FOOD WAS ARRANGED ON TWO PLATES.
LITTLE MING SUDDENLY FELT HUNGRY AND WANTED
TO HELP HIMSELF TO SOME PASTRIES.

FATHER SAID, "NOT YET, REMEMBER HOW YOU SHOULD
PAY YOUR RESPECT TO GRANDPA FIRST?"

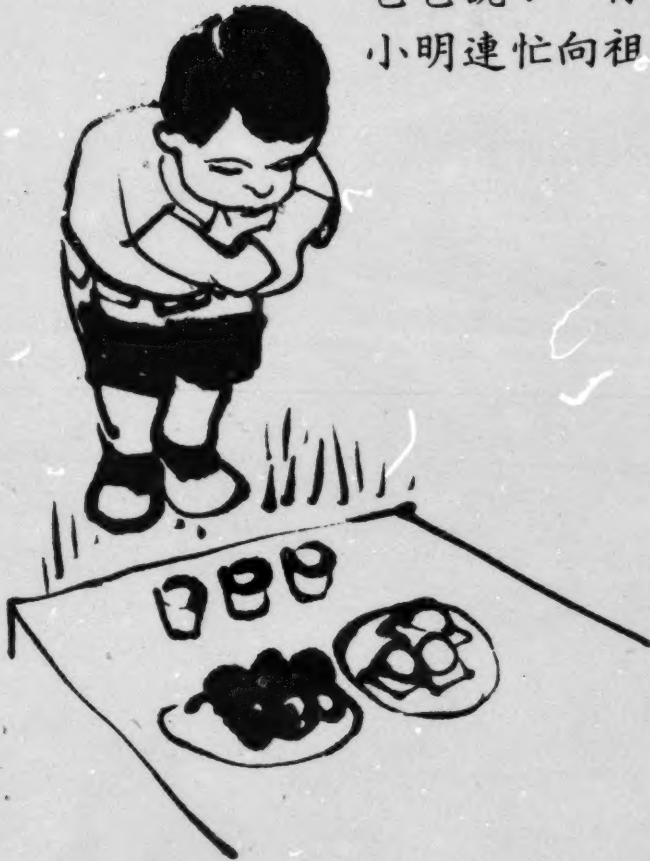
"YES, I'LL BOW THREE TIMES."

"GOOD BOY," SAID FATHER.

AND THEN THEY TOOK TURNS BOWING TO
GRANDPA'S PICTURE.

AFTERWARDS, THEY SAT AROUND AND ENJOYED
THE FOOD THEY BROUGHT.

小明肚子餓了，要吃媽媽帶來的東西。
爸爸說：「你忘了怎樣向祖父表示敬意吧？」
小明連忙向祖父的像行三鞠躬禮。



FATHER TOLD LITTLE MING HOW GRANDPA CAME TO AMERICA MANY MANY YEARS AGO.

"HE WORKED VERY HARD. SOMETIMES HE WORKED TWELVE TO FOURTEEN HOURS A DAY, IN ORDER TO SAVE MONEY TO BRING US OVER HERE."

"GRANDPA NEVER HAD A CHANCE TO GO TO SCHOOL. SO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH HE WANTED YOU TO BE A GOOD PUPIL."

他們在祖父的墓旁吃點心和水果，
爸爸告訴小明祖父艱辛一生，也沒有機會受教育，
他希望小明做個好學生，以慰祖父在天的靈。





ON THEIR WAY HOME, MOTHER TOLD LITTLE MING HOW THEY USED TO LIVE IN A VILLAGE IN CHINA. AUNTIE ALSO TOLD LITTLE MING FAMILY STORIES THAT HE HAD NOT HEARD BEFORE.

WHEN THEY GOT HOME, LITTLE MING SAID, "I KNOW WHAT CHING-MING DAY IS NOW. IT IS A DAY TO REMEMBER. I WILL GET UP EARLY THE NEXT CHING-MING DAY."

媽媽也告訴小明很多從前在中國農村的故事，
回家後，小明對爸爸媽媽說：「明年清明日，我也
要大清早起來！」